

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 181318 TOSEC 080151
ORIGIN PA-02

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UNCLAS STATE 181318 TOSEC 080151

FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT WASHINGTON POST OP-ED BY MARQUIS
CHILDS, TUESDAY, JULY 18, HEADED "AN AMBUSH OF SALT?"

2. IF SEN. HENRY M. (SCOOP) JACKSON (D-WASH.) AND CER-
TAIN OF HIS ALLIES HAVE THEIR WAY, NOT ONLY WILL A POS-
SIBLE SALT II TREATY BE DEFEATED, BUT MOREOVER THERE
WILL BE NO TREATY FOR THE SENATE AND THE AMERICAN PEO-
PLE TO ASSESS. WITH POWERFUL FORCES BEHIND HIM, JACK-
SON IS PRACTICING WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED PARLIAMENTARY
ABORTION.

3. LONG AN OPPONENT OF ANY AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET
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PAGE 02 STATE 181318 TOSEC 080151

UNION, THE SENATOR, WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES WITH HIS
BRAINY YOUNG STAFFER RICHARD PERLE, CAME OUT IN THE
OPEN THE OTHER DAY. HE ATTACKED THE VERY IDEA OF A
SALT TREATY THAT WOULD, HE SAID, GIVE THE SOVIETS
300 LARGE, MODERN INTERCONTINENTAL MISSILES WHILE
THE UNITED STATES WOULD GET NONE.

4. HE WAS CHALLENGED BY SEN. THOMAS J. MCINTYRE (D-N.H.), WHO ARGUED THAT THE SENATE SHOULD AT LEAST HAVE

A CHANCE TO SEE A TREATY IF ONE IS FINALLY ACHIEVED. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS THUS FAR HAD TENTATIVELY REQUIRED THE SOVIETS TO DESTROY SOME 300 OF THEIR LAUNCHERS.

5. "ALL I AM SAYING," MCINTYRE CONCLUDED, "IS TO GIVE THE SALT TREATIES A CHANCE BEFORE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. MUST WE BEAT IT TO DEATH BEFORE WE GET IT?"

6. THE SENATE WAS CONSIDERING A MEASURE TO AUTHORIZE MILITARY APPROPRIATIONS OF DOLS 36.1 BILLION FOR THE COMING FISCAL YEAR. OF THE TOTAL, DOLS 12.5 BILLION IS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. MCINTYRE, CHAIRMAN OF THE R AND D SUBCOMMITTEE, TOOK THE OCCASION TO POINT TO THE HAZARDS OF THE KIND OF PANIC PSYCHOLOGY ADVOCATING DEVELOPMENT OF ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING THAT COULD CONCEIVABLY INCREASE THE U.S. LEAD OVER THE SOVIET UNION.

7. A YEAR AND A HALF AGO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WAS PROPOSING FULL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT OF THE "CONTINUOUS TRENCH" SYSTEM OF DEPLOYING INTERCONTINENTAL MISSILES. UNDER THAT SYSTEM THE MISSILE POPS OUT OF A HOLD IN A UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 181318 TOSEC 080151

LONG TRENCH OR TUNNEL TO FIRE. IN THEORY THAT FRUSTRATES SOVIET KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCATION OF U.S. MISSILES IN FIXED POSITIONS.

8. THE AIR FORCE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC FOR THE "CONTINUOUS TRENCH," WHICH HAD AN ESTIMATED PRICE TAG OF DOLS 30-40 BILLION. GEN. ALTON D. SLAY, HEAD OF THE AIR FORCE R AND D TEAM WAS A STRONG ADVOCATE OF THE MX MISSILE AND THE TRENCH SYSTEM OF DELIVERY. SINCE THEN, HOWEVER, FURTHER STUDY HAS SHOWN THAT IT WAS THE WRONG METHOD, BOTH UNWORKABLE AND CERTAIN TO END WITH A WASTE OF THE MANY BILLIONS PUT INTO IT.

9. MCINTYRE TOLD THE SENATE THAT IF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAD BEEN GIVEN A GREEN LIGHT ON FULL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT, "WE WOULD LIKELY HAVE DISASTROUSLY PLUNGED AHEAD WITH THE NOW-DISCREDITED CONTINUOUS-TRENCH SCHEME BEFORE ITS VULNERABILITIES HAD BEEN UNDERSTOOD." HARDLY ANYTHING IN THE DEFENSE BUDGET IS MORE COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND THAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. HAVING WORKED IT OVER FOR 10 YEARS, MCINTYRE COULD SPEAK WITH CONFIDENCE.

0. FOLLOWING THE FINAL VOTE IN THE SUBCOMMITTEE,

MORE MONEY FOR THE MX. BECAUSE IT SEEMED VAGUE AND INDEFINITE, SEN. JOHN STENNIS (D-MISS.) CALLED A MEETING OF THE FULL ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, OF WHICH HE IS CHAIRMAN, TO SEE WHETHER IT HAD ANY REAL SUPPORT.

11. GOING AROUND THE TABLE WITH HIS LONG EXPERIENCE, STENNIS FOUND NO RESPONSE TO MORE MONEY FOR THE MX, WHICH WOULD HAVE ADDED A FEW UILLION TO THE DEFENSE BUDGET. TO MANY, IT SEEMED THE IDEA HAD ORIGINATED WITH PERLE, WHO HAD IN TURN SOLD IT TO JACKSON AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 181318 TOSEC 080151

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12. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF JACKSON'S POWER. HE MAY LEAD THE EXECUTION SQUAD IF BY SOME REMOTE CHANCE A TREATY IS ARRIVED AT. OR HE MAY SUCCEED IN STRANGLING THE INFANT BEFORE IT COMES TO TERM.

13. AT A MUCH EARLIER TIME, LONG BEFORE HIS HEAVILY FINANCED AND CONSPICUOUSLY UNSUCCESSFUL RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY, JACKSON WAS KNOWN AS THE "SENATOR FROM BOEING," AFTER THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRY IN SEATTLE. PLEASANT, CHARMING, HE BUILT UP HIS CONTACTS AS HE MOVED IN 1952 FROM THE HOUSE TO THE SENATE. HE WAS REELECTED IN 1976 FOR HIS SIXTH TERM AND, IN THE COZY CLUB OF 100, SENIORITY COUNTS FOR A GREAT DEAL.

14. ALTHOUGH HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND OFTEN TANGLES WITH BIG OIL, HIS PRINCIPAL INTEREST IS THE MILITARY. BOEING IS, OF COURSE, A VERY LARGE DEFENSE CONTRACTOR. BUT THAT IS MINOR ALONGSIDE HIS INTENSE CONVICTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPERIORITY OVER THE SOVIETS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT AND HIS REPEATED CRIES OF ALARM THAT THE UNITED STATES IS FALLING BEHIND IN THE ARMS RACE.

15. WHEN THE SALT I TREATY WAS UP FOR RATIFICATION FIVE YEARS AGO, JACKSON TOOK THE OCCASION TO GIVE A ROUGH TIME TO THE NEGOTIATORS OF THAT AGREEMENT. HE IS A FORMIDABLE IN-FIGHTER, AS HIS OPPONENTS HAVE GOOD REASON TO KNOW. CHRISTOPHER

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